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OTTAWA • TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2009 metronews.ca

EXCLUSIVE OFFER

see details on
PAGE 4

liz&co. **Sears**

Patrick Swayze dead at 57

ACTOR Patrick Swayze, the hunky actor who danced his way into viewers' hearts with *Dirty Dancing* and then broke them with *Ghost*, died yesterday after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 57.



"Patrick Swayze passed away peacefully today with family at his side after facing the challenges of his illness for the last 20 months," said a statement released last night by his publicist, Annett Wolf. No other details were given.

When he first went public with the illness, some reports gave him only weeks to live, but his doctor said his situation was "considerably more optimistic" than that.

"I'd say five years is pretty wishful thinking," Swayze told ABC's Barbara Walters in early 2009. "Two years seems likely if you're going to believe statistics. I want to last until they find a cure, which means I'd better get a fire under it."

A three-time Golden Globe nominee, Swayze was married since 1975 to Lisa Niemi. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

N.Y. Fashion Week

Just peachy



A model struts her stuff in a dress from the spring 2010 fashion collection from Donna Karan during fashion week in New York yesterday.

Election fever to break?

NDP may prop up Tories

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservatives set the stage for their first parliamentary survival test Friday, but the threatened political showdown that could lead to an early election appeared to be losing steam.

The pre-election fever in Ottawa eased a notch yesterday when the New Democrats suggested they might be willing to back the government — thus averting a vote of non-confidence in the Commons — because of new help for laid-off workers being proposed by the Conservatives.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff and his party remains committed to voting out Harper and forcing an election at the earliest opportunity.

But the Conservatives, who hold 143 of the Commons' 308 seats, need only one of the other three parties to vote with the government to avoid being toppled in a confidence vote. The Liberals have 77 seats, the NDP, 36, and the Bloc Québécois, 48. (There

is one Independent MP and three vacancies.)

NDP Leader Jack Layton signalled his party might prop up the Conservative minority after Human Resources Minister Diane Finley used the post-summer break return of MPs to Ottawa to reveal additional help for laid-off workers.

"The announcement today appears to be a step in the right direction," Layton said in a prepared statement. "Our preference remains fighting for the unemployed rather than fighting for a second election."

The NDP said it would take a close look at Finley's proposed legislation, which would temporarily extend EI payments by an extra five to 20 weeks for laid-off "long-tenure" employees.

If the NDP is willing to support the Conservatives because of improved EI benefits, it should allow the Tories to survive a vote of confidence the Liberals are expected to introduce in the Commons in about two weeks. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

News on the Move

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On the web

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Rights activists want men to send strong anti-violence message

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

After a recent string of reported sexual assaults, women's rights advocates are challenging Ottawa men

to take a lead in opposing violence against women.

"It's not to take the voices away from the women, but to come on and say, 'We're better than this. This is not us,'" said Concilia Muonde, a public education co-ordina-

tor at the Sexual Assault Support Centre of Ottawa.

"That would send a strong message."

Muonde said she would like to see civic leaders like Mayor Larry O'Brien or police Chief Vern White take

up the banner and make violence against women a city-wide issue.

"We want allies. We want men to take some leadership and challenge one another," she said.

According to Crimere-

ports.com, there have been nine reported sexual assault cases in Ottawa since Aug. 16.

"One is too many," said Muonde.

The SASC-Ottawa is holding its annual Take Back the Night march Sept. 24.

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Local



Police target cycling safety

Police laid 346 cycling safety charges and issued 475 tickets to motorists for running red lights last month as a part of an initiative to increase cycling safety. In addition to enforcement, police handed out hundreds of information pamphlets on cycling safety at Ottawa's higher-risk locations for vehicle-cyclist collisions. Police also handed out 500 bicycle bells to cyclists who did not have bells on their bikes.

METRO OTTAWA



News in brief

ATTEMPTED MURDER A 62-year-old Ottawa man has been charged with attempted murder and aggravated assault after a serious altercation between a man and woman in south Ottawa early Sunday morning.

CRASH A 34-year-old man suffered non-life-threatening head and back injuries after the vehicle he was driving rolled over in front of the prime minister's residence late Sunday night, police said.

METRO OTTAWA

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What's online today.

Video NDP Leader Jack Layton says Tories' proposed EI reforms a step in the right direction in avoiding fall election at metronews.ca/canada

Your Money Allan Small looks at ways investors can protect themselves from inflation as the market recovery continues at metronews.ca/investing



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Keeping historical treasures

Fund has helped museums collect pieces of Canadian history

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

A Victoria Cross medal set, one of Canada's earliest goalie masks and a work by Tom Thomson that almost ended up in the trash are among the treasures owned by The Canadian Museum of Civilization and the Canadian War Museum for all to enjoy.

None of this would have been possible without the Canadian Museum of Civilization Corp.'s National Collection Fund.

"The museum is charged with collecting and preserving objects for future generations," said Mark O'Neill, vice-president of the Canadian Museum of Civilization Corp. and director general of the Canadian War Museum. "The artifacts tell our stories and define our country."

While Canadians do do-



Canadian Museum of Civilization Corp. collections manager, dress and insignia Eric Fernberg, centre, shows the Lt.-Col. Shankland Victoria Cross medal set to museum staff Pam Bowles, left, and Sanita Fejzic, who were dressed to launch the 2009 history costume ball yesterday.

nate artifacts, the museum has missed out on many opportunities to acquire important pieces due to the lack of funds, O'Neill said. These pieces have often fallen into the hands of private collectors.

Four years ago, the fund

was established to acquire historic objects for preservation and public access.

Several treasures displayed at the war museum yesterday — the Lt. Col. Shankland Victoria Cross medal set, Montreal Canadiens Jacques Plante's

pretzel design goalie mask, a watercolour by Tom Thomson, and Shaman Revealed — would not have been purchased without the fund, said O'Neill.

"It's a great Canadian story," he said. "When peo-

ple engage with an artifact, they learn something about who they are."

While the Jacques Plante mask, "tells a very important story about how sports evolved in Canada," O'Neill said, The Foot Path of Peace was thrown out by a dissatisfied Thomson, but later rescued from the garbage, said war museum assistant historian Dr. Amber Lloydlangston.

Yesterday's event announced a fundraiser for the National Collection Fund, the fourth annual history costume ball at the war museum on Oct. 28.

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Get a taste of Italy at La Vendemmia

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

GRAPES There may not be a vineyard in sight, but as summer eases into fall, an Italian tradition has returned to Ottawa's little Italy.

A celebration of Italian wine and food, La Vendemmia — which translates to the grape harvest in Italian — kicked off last night, and for the 13th year, dozens of restaurants are

inviting local gastronomes to try the most authentic Italian cuisine in the city.

Organizers are expecting more than 3,000 people to come out.

While Italian Week celebrates Italian culture, festival spokesman Sean Moher sees La Vendemmia as more inclusive.

"This is about people who love Italian wine and food, regardless of their heritage," he said.

The grape harvest tradition here remains alive

and well.

"It's the time of year in wine country that all the grapes are coming in, and the local Italian community starts to make wine from grapes," said Moher.

Preston Hardware, for example, receives about thousands of crates of grapes to sell to customers, he said.

While a charity grape stomp is one of the more colourful events planned, others include wine tastings.

Huge public support of Army Run

CHARITY More than your average road race, the second annual Army Run demonstrates the close relationship between Canadians and the military, the event's director said.

Originally, the run — going this Sunday — "was created for us to thank Canadians for their support," said run director Chris Horeczky. "But Canadians decided it was a chance for them to support us. It's really an opportunity to demonstrate the strong relationship between us and all Cana-

dians."

There's still time to sign up for the run, which is expected to get 10,000 runners and walkers in the half marathon and 5K events, said Horeczky.

The event "exceeded expectations by a landslide" last year, he said. "A first-year run might get 1,000 people," he said. "My running friends said (we) could expect 2,500 because we're the army."

Last year, participants raised \$60,000.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA



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The owner of a fishing vessel from Newfoundland that sank on the weekend with the loss of at least one crew member says the tragedy might have been avoided if the federal government had based a helicopter in St. John's. The search and rescue helicopter station for the province is based in Gander, in central Newfoundland. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Lack of federal funds blamed for fisherman's death

Canada



Clement denies anti-gay claims

Industry Minister Tony Clement, left, denied yesterday he directed his department to give any special scrutiny to gay-themed tourism events, and lashed out angrily at opposition suggestions that homophobia motivated government funding decisions. Clement insisted he did not oust cabinet colleague Diane Ablonczy from the helm of a tourism program after she approved funding for Toronto's gay pride week. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Death prompts debate

Jean weighs in on usefulness of Canada's role in Afghanistan

The death of another young Canadian soldier has provided the kindling to reignite the debate over the usefulness of Canada's role in Afghanistan — and even Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean waded into the issue yesterday.

The death of 21-year-old Pte. Patrick Lormand, Canada's 130th soldier killed in the mission, prompted an impassioned address from the country's top-ranking soldier in Afghanistan.

Brig.-Gen. Jonathan Vance's stern rebuke was aimed directly at a Liberal senator who publicly expressed doubt about the mission's potential.

Senator Colin Kenny, the chair of the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence, compared the effort to the historic mili-

tary quagmire in Vietnam and suggested Canada should scale back its role in the remaining year of its combat mission.

That was met with a harsh response from Vance as he spoke about the passing of Lormand.

"Neither (Lormand) nor his family benefit from uninformed opinions about what his goals were and the techniques he used to achieve them," Vance said. Military officials told reporters the statement was directed at Kenny.

Canada's normally apolitical Governor General also waded into the issue.

Departing from the standard statement of condolence for a fallen soldier,

Jean issued an unusually passionate tribute to the Chute-A-Blondeau, Ont., native. She described an emotional trip she took to Kandahar last week, and applauded the good work of Canada's soldiers.

"It broke my heart today to learn of the death," Jean wrote in the statement, which was posted on her website.

"As a tribute to Private Lormand, I would like to reflect on the mission for which he so bravely gave his life, because, not three days ago, I was with our soldiers in Afghanistan to honour the difficult and remarkable job they are doing."

Jean described a visit to a school where, she said,

children expressed gratitude that foreign soldiers would risk their lives to provide security for their country.

"These are the people we never — or rarely — hear from," Jean said.

"They all told me that the actions of our soldiers to insure the security of the area ... (is) helping them to move forward as they face the forces of destruction in their country."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Harper to meet with Obama, congressmen

WASHINGTON On the eve of a possible federal election, Prime Minister Stephen Harper will spend an hour this week in the most storied office in the world next to a man who remains wildly popular in Canada — U.S. President Barack Obama.

Harper's visit to Washington will certainly lack the love-in qualities of the president's inaugural trip abroad to Ottawa in February, but sitting down with Obama in the Oval Office for an hour tomorrow is undoubtedly a marquee moment for an embattled leader with yet another election possibly looming.

"It's a hardly a pittance," Paul Frazer, a one-time Canadian diplomat who's now a consultant in Washington, said yesterday.

Frazer disputed any suggestion that Obama was

Talking points

- In Stephen Harper's first White House meeting with Barack Obama, energy, the economy, security and Afghanistan will likely be the top items of discussion.

paying Harper short shrift with the hour-long working visit.

"They talk, they get on the phone with each other — this is 2009, and these are modern men," he said.

As well, Frazer pointed out, Harper knows where much of the real power in Washington resides — in Congress. To that end, the prime minister will trek to Capitol Hill on Thursday to meet with leading congressional Democrats, including Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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News in brief

OTTAWA Michael Ignatieff is casting himself as an international statesman who would reassert Canada's role on the world stage as a peacekeeper, honest broker and poverty fighter. The Liberal leader contrasted his approach to that of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, whom he excoriated for undermining Canada's international stature.

PONZI One Alberta man has been arrested and another remains at large in an alleged Ponzi scheme that Mounties say raised more than \$100 million from investors worldwide. The RCMP arrested and laid fraud charges against Milowe Allen Brost, 55, on Sunday. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Space chat Beliveau talks to astronaut



Hockey great Jean Beliveau smiles while in conversation with Canadian astronaut Robert Thirsk during a live link-up to the International Space Station, at the Canadian Space Agency in Quebec.

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Flu striking at polls worries NDP

Flu Outbreak

ELECTION The New Democrats have asked Canada's top election official if the country is prepared to go to the polls during a swine flu outbreak.

Judy Wasylycia-Leis, the NDP's health critic, has written to Chief Electoral Officer Marc Mayrand asking how ready Elections Canada is for a possible resurgence of the influenza A (H1N1) virus, also known

as swine flu, this fall.

"As you are no doubt aware, experts expect a strong resurgence in H1N1 infections in the coming months," Wasylycia-Leis wrote.

"An election poses significant potential public health risks. Large public events, canvassing and other typical campaign activities, not to mention polling booths and long lineups to vote on election day, all result in a great deal of contact between members of the public." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Edmonton's lone elephant must stay put: Vet

Edmonton's Valley Zoo says an independent veterinarian has ruled that moving the city's only elephant, Lucy, who is having breathing problems, could threaten the animal's life. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

canada 5

Atlantic Canada **Good health**

Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter, left, along with Prince Edward Island Premier Robert Ghiz and New Brunswick Premier Shawn Graham, right, meet in Saint John, N.B. yesterday. The premiers announced a new TV and internet campaign aimed at encouraging active and healthy lifestyles for youth.

Liberals rebranding the harmonized sales tax

POLITICS The Liberals are re-branding the controversial harmonized sales tax as merely one part of a sweeping reform that will return \$15 billion in tax cuts and rebates to Ontarians over the next three years.

Fed up with opponents deriding the blending of the eight per cent provincial sales tax with the five per cent GST as a money grab, Revenue Minister John Wilkinson has gone on the offensive.

As MPPs returned to Queen's Park yesterday following a summer in their ridings hearing constituents' concerns about the business-friendly 13 per cent HST, which takes effect July 1, Wilkinson said it's time to tell "the whole story."

"The most important thing to remember is that the HST is just part of our tax reform package," the minister told reporters. "Over the next three years there will be over \$15 billion worth of tax relief at the same time as we're introducing the harmonized sales tax."

"Over the next three years there will be over \$15 billion worth of tax relief at the same time as we're introducing the harmonized sales tax."

John Wilkinson, revenue minister

That's because there will be \$10.6 billion in tax breaks for individual Ontarians over the next three years — including \$4 billion in rebate cheques of up to \$1,000 for most families, a new \$260 refundable sales tax credit for lower-income people, and \$1.1 billion in income tax cuts by reducing the lowest tax bracket rate from 6.05 per cent to 5.05 per cent.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

PROBE Transport Minister John Baird has ordered an internal probe after reports that Transport Canada employees were charging expenses to a project that doesn't exist. The move follows the revelation yesterday that department staff have been charging millions of dollars in expenses to accounts associated with the Mackenzie Valley pipeline, a mega-project that has yet to be formally approved.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

KIDS The practice of routinely prescribing antibiotics to kids suffering from an ear infection is coming to a formal end. The Canadian Paediatric Society issued new recommendations today instructing doctors to watch and wait before treating most ear infections with antibiotics in healthy children over six months of age. The society's statement is published this week in Paediatrics & Child Health.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada opening doors to Afghans who aided troops

They are privy to some of military's sensitive strategies in Afghanistan, faced death alongside Canadian troops and now will be offered safe haven in Canada.

The federal government is prepared to open its doors to hundreds of Afghan citizens who have worked alongside Canadian soldiers and diplomats in Afghanistan.

The initiative is a recognition that the Afghans often face risks and reprisals

Refugee benefits

- If moved to Canada, Afghans will be given many of the same benefits as refugees — income support, health care — and be put on the path to obtaining Canadian citizenship.

from insurgents as a result of the assistance they give to Canadians in the war-torn country.

Immigration Minister Ja-

son Kenney will announce the program today as the federal government releases a report card on its military and development efforts in Afghanistan.

The first choice has been to resettle Afghans and their immediate families in other parts of Afghanistan.

But when that's not possible, the federal government will move them to Canada.

In Afghanistan, Canadians rely heavily on local

workers, who provide some services in the camps or who serve as interpreters during military patrols.

The interpreters not only translate, but often serve as informal advisers on Afghan culture and help soldiers avoid committing social faux-pas that would offend. But the interpreters can also find themselves in the crosshairs of local insurgents.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ADVERTISING FEATURE

eBay Sellers are Making \$5,000-10,000+ a Month

By James Ryder

Why settle for mediocre pay and long hours when it is possible to make over \$100,000 a year from the comfort of your home?

Over 170 million people are registered eBay users and 1.3 million are making a full-time living through online auctioning, leaving their everyday jobs.

Dan Lok, online auction and internet expert, is one of many people who have left the mundane aspect of a 9-to-5 desk job and begun to make his own income at home. Now Lok is making around \$10,000 a month.

"People shouldn't wait until they find themselves out of a job before they find out they are not financially secure," Lok said. "They should start ensuring their own and their family's financial future immediately."

Not only does eBay allow people to make money and get rid of some things that may no longer be of use, there are more benefits than cash. If a seller can

make \$1,000 a month or more, they can qualify for most of the same benefits that are available in a regular 9-to-5 job, such as health, vision and dental. Over 200,000 members of eBay qualify for these benefits and more.

Not only does using eBay at home cut back on paying for gas and having to deal with the hassle of rush hour traffic, but also consumer demands through the Internet are continually growing, allowing for a higher income rate per seller.

One source says on average one car is sold every two minutes, a car part or accessory sold every three seconds, diamond jewelry every eighty-three

seconds, and a pair of Timberland shoes every ten minutes. These items and more, from concert tickets to stamps and coins, are sold daily by average people looking to gain an income or better their current cash flow.

"Anybody can do it if they know the right technique," Lok said. "With the right techniques it's easy to make extra income."

It is rather easy to get started in the process and become acquainted with the techniques.

With a little homework, access to an Internet-ready computer, and some basic computer knowledge, anyone can be on their way to becoming a member of the fastest growing community in the Canada and the U.S.

"Why wait to win the lottery," Lok said, "when selling on eBay is like winning the lotto every day."



Paolo M. supplements her income with eBay and the Internet

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— Jeremy W.



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— Weston T.



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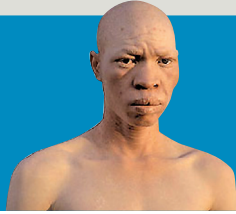
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More bad news for journalists: The percentage of people who believe their work is inaccurate and biased continues to grow. Nearly two-thirds of Americans surveyed by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press believe that news stories are often inaccurate. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

World



Speaking up for Tanzania's albinos

A Canadian rights group says it will not rest until there is an end to the murder of albinos in Tanzania — a minority often hunted down for their body parts to be used in witchcraft. Since 2007 at least 53 albinos have been killed in various parts of the east African nation, with most incidents occurring in the remote northwest regions of Shinyanga and Mwanza, where superstition is deep-seated. **REUTERS**

Obama warns Wall Street

President Barack Obama sternly warned Wall Street yesterday against returning to the sort of reckless and unchecked behaviour that threatened America with a second Great Depression.

Even as he noted the U.S. economy and financial system were pulling out of a downward spiral, Obama warned financial titans on the first anniversary of the Lehman Brothers collapse that they could not count on any more bailouts.

He credited his administration and the \$787-billion stimulus package rammed through Congress in the first days of his taking office for pulling the country back from the brink.

"We can be confident

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that the storms of the past two years are beginning to break," he said.

And even as the economy begins a "return to normalcy," he said, "normalcy cannot lead to complacency." Nevertheless, Obama said, "Instead of learning the lessons of Lehman and the crisis from which we are still recovering, they are choosing to ignore them."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philippines Demand for troops to leave



Protesters shout slogans during a rally outside the U.S. Embassy in Manila yesterday to protest the continued presence of U.S. troops in the Philippines through the Visiting Forces Agreement, or VFA. The U.S. troops are currently stationed in southern Philippines to help the Philippine military in its fight against terrorism in the wake of terrorist attacks on U.S. soil in Sept. 11, 2001.

News in brief

U.K. In a case that altered airport security worldwide, three British Muslims were imprisoned yesterday for at least 30 years each for a plot to kill thousands by blowing up transatlantic airliners with liquid explosives hidden in soda bottles.

PAKISTAN A missile fired from a suspected unmanned U.S. drone slammed into a car in a Pakistani tribal region close to the Afghan border yesterday, killing four people, intelligence officials and residents said. The apparent American missile strike was the latest of more than 50 in the northwest region since last year.

MURDER Clues increasingly pointed to an inside job yesterday in the slaying of a Yale graduate student whose body was found stuffed inside a wall five days after she vanished from a heavily secured lab building accessible only to university employees.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Death penalty sought for U.S. man charged with mobile home murders

A prosecutor will seek the death penalty for a man charged with killing his father and seven others inside the family's mobile home. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

world 7

Russia, Venezuela engage in arms deal

Fearing the U.S., South American country beefs up military

Russia has opened a \$2.2-billion line of credit for Venezuela to purchase weapons including armoured vehicles and surface-to-air missiles, President Hugo Chavez said Sunday.

Venezuela is buying more arms because it feels threatened by Colombia's decision to give U.S. troops greater access to its military bases, Chavez said.

Repeating a frequent theme of his presidency, the socialist leader said the United States would like to invade Venezuela and seize the country's oil fields. He said the bases in Colombia could help the U.S. stage

"The Russian government approved financing for \$2.2 billion. For what? For weapons, and we must thank them."

Hugo Chavez, Venezuelan president

such an attack.

The arms deal was announced last week during Chavez's visit to Moscow, and he gave details Sunday. Chavez said the deal calls for Venezuela to buy 92 Russian-made T-72 tanks as

well as Smerch anti-aircraft missile launching systems. He didn't say how many missile launchers Venezuela was buying.

"The Russian government approved financing for \$2.2 billion. For what? For weapons, and we must thank them," Chavez said. "We've decided to install a powerful anti-air defence system."

Last week, Chavez said the deal also included the purchase of ground-to-ground missiles with a range of up to 300 kilometres. He said they were needed to improve Venezuela's defences.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India Kashmir protest



A Kashmiri transporter holds a placard reading "In the midst of oppression and tyranny, Jihad is our slogan," amidst tear gas smoke during a protest in Srinagar, India, yesterday. Police in Indian Kashmir fired tear gas shells and used coloured water cannons to disperse protesters demanding release of their salaries withheld for many months in the region, officials said.

Indonesian province votes for adulterers to be stoned

LAW Lawmakers in a devoutly Muslim Indonesian province voted unanimously yesterday that adulterers could be sentenced to death by stoning, just months after voters overwhelmingly chose to throw conservative Islamic parties out of power.

Only weeks before the new government is set to take over, the regional parliament still controlled by hard-liners pushed through steep punishments for adultery and homosexuality. The chairman

of the 69-seat house asked if the bill could be passed into law and members answered in unison: "Yes, it can." Some members of the moderate Democrat Party voiced reservations, but none of them voted against the bill.

Human rights groups said the law violates international treaties signed by Indonesia. The province's deputy governor also opposed the legislation, saying it needed more careful consideration.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New bin Laden tape emerges

TERROR Osama bin Laden said in a new audiotape that President Barack Obama's strategy in Afghanistan is "hopeless" and called on Americans to resolve the conflict with al-Qaida by ending the war there and breaking the U.S. alliance with Israel.

Depiction

- In the audiotape, bin Laden sought to depict Obama as merely continuing the policies of former president George Bush and former vice-president Dick Cheney.

In the message marking the anniversary of the 9-11 attacks, the al-Qaida leader avoided rhetoric of jihad and took a more analytical tone,

claiming to explain to the U.S. public the root causes of the conflict — which he said were the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The message was only 11 minutes, far shorter than other videos al-Qaida has released to mark the anniversary.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

COURT An Ohio judge says an autistic teenager is not competent to stand trial in the fatal beating of his mother and should be institutionalized. The judge, John Enslow, said in the ruling yesterday that 18-year-old Sky Walker is guilty of murdering his mother, 60-year-old Trudy Steuernagel.

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Comment

Attacks on the horizon

Get ready for down-and-dirty politics if election called

NationalReport

Lawrence Martin

metronews.ca/nationalreport

The debate on health care in the United States, hijacked by lame-brained, right-wing radio talk jocks, is comparable to the debate on coalition government here. Level of intelligence? Subterranean.

In the U.S., Barack Obama's enlightened effort to bring health care to 45 million Americans without it is being distorted into a socialist takeover of Washington.

But perhaps we shouldn't chide them too much. Up here, we're running the risk

in the coming election, should we listen to the Conservatives, of socialist and separatist hordes taking over Ottawa.

Yep. It's that bad. In every election campaign, it should be said, the bullshrine metre rises. But in the coming one, look out. It threatens to go off the charts. The prime minister alleged the coalition takeover plot in a closed-door speech. His Conservatives, experts at dirtball, have dredged up an out-of-date quote from Michael Ignatieff saying he supports a coalition and are using it in an attack ad.

With their myriad distortions the Conservatives have turned the idea of a coalition into something worse than swine flu. Coalition governments have been common in Europe.

Canada had its own coalition government in the First World War and the country didn't fall apart.

We need to bear in mind also that since minority governments are frequent due to our multi-party makeup, coalitions may well be the way of the future in this country. The problem for the Conservatives — and the reason they detest coalitions — is because they have no natural partners to link up with.

No one should wish the Bloc Québécois to be a formal part of any coalition. But the reality is that minority governments will often be reliant on their support for survival.

As was revealed in a letter to the Governor General released by the Bloc last year, Stephen Harper, as opposition leader, was prepared to

co-operate with the Bloc and the NDP to create an alternative to Paul Martin's Liberal minority if the opportunity presented itself.

Last year, an agreement was reached wherein the Bloc agreed not to bring down a Liberal/NDP coalition for 18 months. Despite his letter to the Governor General, the PM, in high dudgeon, portrayed the arm's-length arrangement as some sort of Armageddon. He scored so high in the court of public opinion with the gambit that no one dares use the c-word again.

It's wild. It's like the demonization of national health care in the U.S. It's Rush Limbaugh come north.

Lawrence Martin is a journalist and author of 10 books who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

THE LIBERALS ARE FORMING A COALITION. HAVE THEY NO SHAME?



MICHAEL DI ADIOR

Views

Dreaming of a date with George Clooney

ModernLife

Georgie Binks

metronews.ca/modernlife

Every year on a sunny September day, I doll myself up, in an understated way, head down to Yorkville and accidentally bump into George Clooney at the Second Cup.

Overwhelmed by my wit, depth and unusual looks (so different from the women he dates) George immediately falls for me. We play hide-and-seek in Kensington Market, laugh as we eat butter chicken at my favourite Indian restaurant and, well, the rest is history — or rather fantasy. As the Toronto International Film Festival hits town every year I enjoy my "George" fantasy. (He loves that we

share the same name.)

It's my secret life with George (what a great movie title!), which I've always thought was mine alone until I headed downtown last week and discovered the entire female population of Toronto (and likely the world) harbours the same fantasy and lurks everywhere trying to fulfil it. For instance, when I walked into my optometrist's office, the receptionist inquired, "Have you seen George Clooney?" My head whipped around. "Why is he out there?"

"No, but I hear he got

mobbed eating sushi last night."

Another patient arrived at the desk. "Oh, you mean George." As if she was on a first-name basis with him. No sooner than do I feel like my dirty little secret is everyone else's, too, when a sales clerk informs me a busload of women has swarmed through her store and onto the streets looking for a man with a bandaged hand, which Clooney is apparently sporting.

Women tell me they love everything about him, from his puppy dog eyes to the fact he doesn't take himself too seriously. I think there's also that feeling that nabbing George, the

über single man, would be an achievement far surpassing being prime minister, winning the lottery or, for me, finding a product that would give my hair volume.

One woman tells me, "I love George because he dates everyone — it doesn't matter what age."

"He's dating women our age now?"

"No — but every other age."

Which brings me back to reality — that with the passage of time my daughter, 22, is now old enough or young enough to date George. This unfortunate (for me) scenario now has me as George's mother-in-law and serving him mashed potatoes.

Wait. My new fantasy is George reads this with his morning coffee and picks up the phone ...

Georgie Binks is a Toronto freelance writer who writes about gender and relationships; georgiebinks@rogers.com

Worth mentioning

Elections Canada preps for possible vote, flu outbreak

Canada's election agency is stockpiling hand sanitizer as it prepares for a possible election and a potential swine flu outbreak.

A spokeswoman for Elections Canada said yesterday each polling station will have two bottles of hand sanitizer along with posters urging flu-stricken voters to cough into their sleeves and wash their hands.

"The health and safety of Canadian voters during a general election is a priority for Elections Canada," Diane Benson said. "Elections Canada is tak-

ing appropriate steps in line with government of Canada guidelines to provide Canadians with a safe and healthy voting environment."

Benson wasn't immediately able to say how much it will cost to stock each voting station with bottles of hand sanitizer.

The agency detailed its plans after the New Democrats asked Canada's top election official if the country is prepared to go to the polls in the event of a swine flu outbreak.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



We Know What You're Thinking

33%

The number of Canadians who say either they or someone close to them have/had been a victim of identity theft.



IPSOS REID





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Woman whose union battle inspired film dead at 68

The woman who inspired a fight to unionize a Southern textile plant and was later depicted in the 1979 film Norma Rae has died at age 68. The film recounted Crystal Lee Sutton's battle against low pay and poor conditions at J.P. Stevens in northeast North Carolina. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Business

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 US 92.29¢ US 0.42¢	 US \$3.297 US 33.7¢	 US \$68.86 US 43¢	 11,332.04 78.81

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Net worth up in Q2: StatsCan

Statistics Canada says Canadians grew wealthier in the second quarter, mostly because their stock market investments began recovering from the deep sell-off during the recession.

The agency says household net worth grew by \$141 billion to \$5.6 trillion for the third consecutive quarter during the April-June months, a time when

\$5.6T Canadian household net worth grew \$141 billion to \$5.6 trillion during the second quarter, a Statistics Canada report says.

the Toronto Stock Exchange index advanced by 20 per cent.

But the agency notes that Canadians also started taking on more debt during

the period. Still, the rise in wealth more than made up for new loans as the ratio of debt to worth edged down to 24.8 cents per dollar of worth from 24.9 cents in the first quarter.

The agency says the net worth of corporations fell by \$208 billion in the second quarter. Government levels of debt rose in the second quarter to 39.8 per cent of the economy from

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38.3 per cent in the previous three months and from 36 per cent last year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

WIRELESS Nortel Networks announced yesterday that American rival Avaya Inc. was the successful bidder for its Enterprise Solutions division in a sale that's expected to close in December. Avaya has agreed to pay more than \$900 million US, nearly twice its initial bid.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BoC's inflation fixation a risk to economy: Analysts

REPORT The Bank of Canada is coming under criticism for having too narrow a view of the economy.

In a new paper, economists Arthur Donner and Doug Peters say the central bank's adherence to fighting inflation at the exclusion of other aspects of the

economy poses a risk to the recovery.

"In our view, the Bank of Canada needs to broaden its formal economic policy objectives," they write in a paper for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. "The central bank must have a broader view

of the economy and include employment and economic growth along with inflation as near-term objectives."

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney has muscled recently that the bank's mandate may need to be broadened to avert future crises.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spain Fight swine flu in style



A woman dines at the Silk&Soya restaurant near Madrid, Spain. The eatery claims to be the world's first restaurant with a specific plan to protect against the influenza A (H1N1) virus, also known as swine flu. Menus are washed daily, cooks wear surgical masks and tables are set farther apart.

VICTOR R. GAVANO / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AU student Magdalena in Burlington, Ontario, Canada

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Claim renovation tax credit on 2009 filing

Q I would like to get some renovations done on my home: Re-shingling roof, new flooring, washer and dryer, new fence, snow re-

moval, pool maintenance, window coverings, and painting. I don't want to spend several thousand dollars and discover it does not qualify for the tax credit. Please comment.

— Eddie

Investing

Allan Small

Allan Small discusses why it's good to look at the infrastructure sector now. Visit metronews.ca/investing.

A Homeowners must see if the job qualifies for the Home Renovation Tax Credit.

What: A home used as a principal residence would be eligible for the HRTC.

When: Expenditures incurred between January 29, 2009 and Feb 1, 2010

How much: Expendi-

MoneyMatters

Henry Choo Chong

metronews.ca/moneymatters

tures must be between \$1,000 and \$10,000 for a maximum tax credit of \$1,350. The credit reduces tax payable and will not result in a tax refund. Claim on 2009 tax filing.

Which: Expenses incurred qualify, provided the job is of an enduring nature that becomes a permanent part of the home. Eligible expenses: Re-shingling, flooring, fence, window covering and painting.

Not eligible: Washer and dryer, snow removal and pool maintenance.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, can be reached at choochonghcg@yahoo.ca.

Put students on track financially

AlisonOnMoney

Alison Griffiths

metronews.ca/alisononmoney

The first call for financial help came three weeks into our daughter's first semester at university. She'd lost her meal card on a Friday night and the office was closed until Monday. No card equalled no food.

Few parents of first year students will get to the holidays without a supplicating call, text or email. Weekend gatherings, lonely hours racking up the cellphone minutes and all the grab 'n goes enroute to classes put a dent in the student budget.

The semester has started but it isn't too late to put a plan in place to keep students on track financially. You don't want to be over involved or, god forbid, interfering and you do want your children to learn from their mistakes. But, especially for students without a track record handling money, the surest route to independence is by placing a gentle financial

hand on their shoulders.

Financial independence developed now will pay off with a better ability to handle the inevitable education debt upon graduation.

As many as 70 per cent of students starting first year in 2009 will have student loan debt upon graduation and those pursuing four year programs will average \$25,000 or more — and that doesn't include student lines of credit or money borrowed by parents. So it only makes sense to start students off with some financial dollars and sense.

If you haven't done so already, make sure there are two bank accounts in place with lump sums being deposited in the savings account and an automatic twice

Alison's Money Rule:

• Ease college and university students into independence by placing a gentle financial hand on their shoulders.

monthly transfer into the chequing for living expenses.

I recommend the accounts be joint with a parent with both having online access. Aside from just keeping an eye on things for the first year, a joint account makes deposits and transfers much easier.

Students should pay their own cellphone bills, even if the money is coming from mom and dad. There's nothing like seeing and paying for the cost of going over minutes to rein in the chat.

There will be calls for financial help and a bailout now and then is okay. Just be prepared to draw the line if the outstretched hand becomes a permanent fixture.

Alison Griffiths is a financial journalist, author and host of Moxed Out on the W Network. Write to her at alison@alisongriffiths.ca.



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Money-saving tip

Need to buy a gift for someone? Homemade gifts like scrapbooks, baked goods or picture frames save money and add a personal touch money can't buy. **NEWS CANADA**

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Student Cents

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

**Be frugal**

Select small splurges. Instead of buying the latest designer handbag, consider a purse-shaped Post-it note dispenser for under \$15.

NEWS CANADA

Avoid the debt trap

ERIC EMIN WOOD
for Metro Canada

Postsecondary education is hard enough without creditors getting involved.

So how can students — who in many cases are dealing with tuition

fees, government loans, living expenses and one or more part-time jobs, in addition to classes — avoid the debt trap that has snared so many of their peers?

Whether avoiding debt or climbing out of it, the strategies are the same, says Julie Jaggernath, director of education at the Credit Counselling Society of Canada. "Cut expenses, find a job, and pay things off," she says.

"Sometimes it's better to pay to get out of a contract, because at the end of the day, it's going to cost you more if you carry it for the next two or three years."

Elena Jara, of Credit Canada

Many students spend their money on small "discretionary expenses" such as food, she says, not realizing how it adds up.

Jaggernath advises making a budget. "Lay out your financial plan just as you would your schedule," she says. "How much money do you have until the end of the term? Divide that by month, divide that by week, then keep it in a holding account and pay yourself like a business."

Elena Jara, credit education co-ordinator with Credit Canada, advises students to avoid long-term

contracts, including cell-phone plans and car leases, because they never know where they'll be in a year.

"Before you sign any contract, read it, and if you don't understand it, do not sign," she says.

If you are roped in, she says, "sometimes it's better to pay to get out of a contract, because at the end of the day, it's going to cost you more if you carry it for the next two or three years."

Not surprisingly, Jaggernath and Jara both recommend credit counselling to those already in debt — though most schools have



You should set aside some money for fun, such as going out for a coffee with friends once a week, credit experts advise.

academic advisers and a financial aid department, Jaggernath says, and she encourages students to "use and abuse" them.

"Those folks on campus are an amazing resource," she says, "and they would rather help ahead of time than have to find a crisis loan at the last minute."

Jaggernath admits that some money should be set aside for fun. "A coffee a

week had better not kill you," she says.

That said, students "need to take a look at their lifestyle and say, 'You know what? I'm working for my long-term good, not my immediate gratification.'"

Visit creditcounselling-canada.ca/member_agencies to find a non-profit credit counselling agency near you.

Knowing your credit history key when applying for financing

There are a number of steps involved in acquiring financing. As a routine part of the application process, the lender will order a copy of your credit score.

Your personal credit score is compiled by credit bureaus who collect information from various sources, including banks, retailers and other public records, creating a credit report. Information such

as: What credit and debit cards you have, the types of accounts you have at various financial institutions, information about personal loans (such as student loans), are all part of the report.

Generally, credit reports show information going back six to seven years.

The credit bureau does not rate you — it merely provides information on

How to improve your score

Here are a few tips to improve your credit score:

- Apply and open new credit accounts only as necessary.
- Pay off debt rather than moving it around.

- Get copies of your credit report and review to make sure they are accurate.
- Understand how your credit score is determined.

NEWS CANADA

your credit history. The lender will examine the credit report to aid in determining whether to

lend you money. If the lender has any concerns about something on the report, the lender may

ask you for an explanation.

The lender will also use the report to verify other information on your financing application, for example, information about your employment status, your address (including the name of your landlord and perhaps rental payment history), and so on. The credit report will also indicate inquiries made by other

creditors over the period of the report.

By getting a copy of your credit report before you apply for financing, you may be able to avoid surprises and possible delays that may occur in having to answer questions about your credit report. Because the report contains information about you, you have a right to inspect a copy of it.

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Three active NFL players are joining former players in agreeing to donate their brains after death to a Boston University medical school program that studies sports brain injuries. Researchers will study the players' brains and spinal cord tissue to better understand the effects of concussions. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Sports

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Del Potro claims U.S. Open

No. 6 seed shocks Federer in major final

Normally so cool, so consistent, so in control of his emotions and his matches, Roger Federer let the U.S. Open championship slip from his grasp.

Two points from victory against inexperienced, unheralded Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina, two points from a sixth consecutive title at Flushing Meadows and a record-extending 16th Grand Slam overall, Federer, quite simply, fell apart yesterday.

He railed at the chair umpire. His legs grew weary. His double-faults mounted. He could not figure out a way to stop the six-foot-six del Potro from pounding forehand after forehand past him. In a result as surprising for who lost as how it happened, the sixth-seeded del Potro came back to win his first Grand Slam title by upsetting the No. 1-seeded Federer 3-6, 7-6 (5), 4-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2.

Clijsters moves into top 20

• Kim Clijsters moved into the top 20 in the women's rankings yesterday, one day after winning the U.S. Open in her comeback.

The 26-year-old moved into 19th in the WTA rankings. She had been unranked following her 2½-year retirement.

He had won 40 consecutive matches at Flushing Meadows. He had won 33 of his previous 34 Grand Slam matches. And he has made the final at 17 of the past 18 Grand Slam tournaments, 21 overall.

Del Potro? This was the 20-year-old's first Grand Slam final, and he was 0-6 against Federer until now. But after handing Rafael Nadal the most lopsided

loss of his Grand Slam career in the semifinals Sunday, del Potro came back the next day and rattled Federer. Del Potro never seemed intimidated by the setting or the man many consider the greatest tennis player in history.

The four-hour, six-minute match was the first U.S. Open final to go five sets since 1999, and there were no early signs to indicate it would be this competitive — much less end with del Potro on his back, a Grand Slam trophy soon to be in his arms. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Urlacher out for season

Chicago Bears linebacker Brian Urlacher, left, will miss the rest of the season after undergoing surgery to repair his dislocated right wrist — a major blow for a team with high expectations. The 10-year veteran apparently was injured in the first quarter of Sunday's 21-15 loss at Green Bay making a tackle on Packers running back Ryan Grant. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

m.metronews.ca



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Juan Martin del Potro holds up the championship trophy after defeating Roger Federer to win the U.S. Open yesterday. Del Potro defeated Federer 3-6, 7-6 (7), 4-6, 7-6 (7), 6-2.

Sports in brief

CANADIAN GP The stage is set for Formula One's return to Montreal next year. Grand Prix F1 du Canada Inc., and F1's governing body yesterday reached a settlement in their financial dispute. In a release, local promoter Normand Legault says an announcement that Montreal is back on the F1 schedule is "forthcoming."

CHARGED Famed amputee runner Oscar Pistorius has been charged with assaulting a 19-year-old woman at a party he hosted. Pistorius was reportedly arrested Saturday after he tried to intervene in a lover's tiff. The woman had been fighting with her boyfriend outside the house. The South African Press Association reports she later began kicking Pistorius's front door. Pistorius reportedly opened the door to tell her to stop and when he closed it, the woman was hit on the leg.

BLUE JAYS Marco Scutaro's second error of the game allowed Brandon Inge to score from second base in the bottom of the 10th inning, and the Detroit Tigers rallied to beat the Toronto Blue Jays 6-5 last night. Pinch-hitter Aubrey Huff belted a tying three-run homer in the ninth and Ryan Raburn also went deep for the American League Central-leading Tigers. Adam Lind and Edwin Encarnacion homered for Toronto.

APOLOGY Serena Williams apologized yesterday for what she called her "inappropriate outburst" during her semifinal loss to Kim Clijsters at the U.S. Open. Williams was short on contrition in the post-match news conference after her profanity-laced, finger-pointing tirade at a lineswoman Saturday night. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Bills blow lead late as Pats win

NFL RESULTS

Buffalo 24 New England 25



FOOTBALL Tom Brady threw two touchdown passes in a 1:16 span late in the fourth quarter, rallying the New England Patriots past the Buffalo Bills 25-24 in the quarterback's return.

Brady hit Benjamin Watson for an 18-yard touchdown to make it 24-19. Then, after a Buffalo fumble, Brady, who missed all but the first quarter of last year's opener with a knee injury, found Watson for 16 yards to win it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ovechkin works to help kids live their dreams

RAF BRUSILOV
for Metro Vancouver



HOCKEY Scoring impressive goals may be his day job, but helping kids achieve their hockey dreams is just as important for Alexander Ovechkin.

The big-hearted star of the Washington Capitals is not afraid to put his money — and his time — where his mouth is when it comes to giving kids a hockey boost.

Ovechkin was at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto recently to promote a contest that will see him travel to a winning Canadian hockey town to run a practice session for a local kids' hockey team and present a donation of

"My parents gave me everything. I see how happy they are for me and it feels great."

Alex Ovechkin

\$8,000 from Energizer to pay for the team's expenses like equipment, ice time and jerseys.

Ovechkin also runs his own charity called Alex Ovechkin's Crazy 8s which buys tickets to every Capitals home game for deserving kids and also invests his time regularly to run skills clinics for budding hockey players.

For Ovechkin it's all about putting kids on the ice regardless of their circumstances and he says anything he can do right now is just the tip of the iceberg.

"I just want to help kids to live their dream — this is just the beginning of my charity work," Ovechkin said.

His parents supported his love of athletics when he was young, taking him to soccer fields, basketball courts and eventually to hockey rinks. He says the best part of his success now is seeing his parents enjoy it.

"My family (motivated me). My parents gave me everything. I see how happy they are for me and it feels great," Ovechkin said.

On the flip side,

Ovechkin suggests kids themselves should be the ultimate arbiter of just how much hockey becomes a part of their young lives. The last thing he wants to see is overbearing parents pushing their youngsters through the sport to fulfill their own long-lost hockey aspirations.

"The most important thing for kids and hockey is that it's all about them ... kids have to want it," he said.

Ovechkin feels compelled to use his good fortune to make a difference in other people's lives.

"I just like to help people. I think I'm a lucky guy and that way I feel have to help people. If you have a chance to do something, you have to," he said.

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Mirror, Mirror on the wall

Who spends more time looking at themselves: Canadian or American women? It looks like our neighbours log more mirror time each day, according to statistics from global market researcher Synovate. **BEST HEALTH MAGAZINE**

Health & Beauty

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

We all need more hugs

The J Spot

Josey Vogels

metronews.ca/thejspot

There is a frightening trend spreading amongst today's teenagers. No, I'm not talking about texting each other naked pictures, surfing porn online or even having sex before they learn to drive.

The alarming teenage behaviour that has caused such concern in some U.S. schools that it has been banned is — wait for it — rampant hugging.

Yes, you read that correctly.

Seems hugging is all the rage among teenagers these days. According to a recent Toronto Star article on the "phenomenon," they hug each other to express everything from "hello," "good-bye," or even "hey, it's recess!"

Girls hug each other sideways, putting their arms around each other shoulder's and press themselves cheek-to-cheek in utter glee. The surprise hug comes from behind and usually is followed by squeals of laughter and joy. Guys even hug their guy friends, a behaviour that, in my day, would have resulted in ridicule at best and, at worst, something I can't repeat in a family paper.

While no Canadian schools have yet gone so far as to ban hugging, the article quotes Kate Dickson, an English teacher at the Toronto School of Liberal Arts who says she requests at least "a ribbon of daylight" between hugging students.

Another school in Edmonton is discouraging its students from hugging, supposedly to stop the spread of H1N1 flu. Right.

Am I the only one who thinks this is absurd? Not only are hugs awesome, they are actually good for you.

Hugging is powerful. Hugging releases oxytocin, the brain's bonding chemi-

cal. Studies going back as far as the 1930s have shown that people who did not receive adequate cuddling and touch as newborns later suffered both mentally and physically, even if all other basic needs were met. Others have shown that old folks who don't get hugs may become senile faster and die sooner.

Maybe instead of banning hugging among teens, we should encourage it more among adults. Hugging your partner several times a day would help keep you connected and your relationship stronger, especially when life gets in the way and we literally and figuratively lose touch with each other.

And just imagine at work if every time you did a really great job or when something didn't go well, someone in the office walked up to you and gave you a great big hug?

Sadly, our fears about inappropriate touching and teens getting too physical too soon have overshadowed an appreciation of one of the simplest, most healing human gestures.

I say do yourself a favour and hug someone today, will ya?

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

Caution on ADHD drugs

CELIA MILNE
For Metro Canada

New concerns are emerging that drugs for kids with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) can be overused and abused.

ADHD drugs such as Ritalin are in wide circulation. It's estimated that between five per cent and 10 per cent of children in Canada have the disorder, which means they have trouble focusing and are often hyperactive or impulsive.

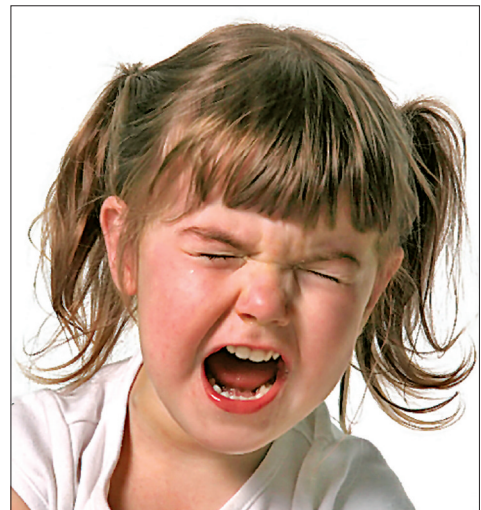
Dr. Edmund Higgins, a psychiatrist at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, is concerned that parents and teachers have a lower tolerance these days for mild behavioural problems, and that these drugs may be used too liberally. He wrote about this in the July 2009 issue of Scientific American.

In the U.S., prescribing of methylphenidate (brand names Ritalin or Concerta) and the amphetamine Adderall rose 12 per cent between 2000 and 2005. "Over the past 15 years," writes Higgins, "doctors have been pinning the ADHD label on — and prescribing stimulants for — a rapidly rising number of patients, including those with moderate to mild inatten-

tion, some of whom ... have a normal ability to focus."

He writes about a child in Grade 6 whose mother came to him asking for Ritalin. But when he tested the child, he found an almost-normal ability to focus.

Like any medication, the risks are not zero. Higgins points to a smattering of recent studies — mostly in animals — that show these drugs could have negative effects on the brain when kids become adults. These stimulants have a way of acting that is similar to cocaine. And, like cocaine, possible effects over the long term could be depressed mood, increased



Dr. Edmund Higgins is concerned that parents and teachers have a lower tolerance these days for mild behavioural problems, and that ADHD drugs may be used too liberally.

anxiety and cognitive defects.

There is also some evi-

dence that these medications can stunt growth in children.

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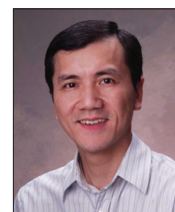
Now that kids have been back to school for a couple of weeks, it is hard to deny that summer has come to an end. The calendar may indicate there are still a few days of summer left. However, most of us are now out of our summer routines and fully into autumn mode.

As we all know, the cooler weather brings with it another cold and flu season. And given the media coverage, we are all aware that the big story for this flu season is the spread of H1N1.

One thing all of our patients should feel confident in is that we are working with other members of the dental profession, various dental supply companies and others to ensure that, as a profession, we are doing everything we can to help protect you in the dental office.

Even better news is the fact that the measures we take in the face of this pandemic are the same measures dentists employ at all times. That is because as health care professionals, we consider your overall health to be our number 1 priority whether we are facing a global pandemic or not.

Rest assured that the dental profession uses the most modern sterilization techniques available for all of our equipment. We also comply



Dr. David Lui
Dental Surgeon

with all regulations governing the requirements to ensure that all equipment is tested regularly. This ensures everything is functioning properly and that we minimize the risk of exposure while you are in your dentist's office.

We also ensure that our operatories are properly cleaned with wipes and other cleaners that are guaranteed to kill as many germs and bacteria as possible. In fact, we consider it vital that chairs and countertops be cleaned regularly.

Most importantly, the members of your dental team staff clean their hands after treating each and every patient. If you have been reading about H1N1, you know that regular hand-washing is one of the most

effective measures to reduce its spread. When that is combined with the use of clean, non-latex gloves, changed with each patient, your risk of exposure is minimized.

So do not let your concerns about H1N1 result in your neglecting your oral health during the upcoming flu season. Rest assured that dental offices are doing their best to protect your health and to prevent the spread of H1N1.

All that we ask is that you help us protect our staff, patients and the public at large by not visiting our office if you are feeling ill. Also, you might find that many offices have removed magazines and reading material from their offices as per recommendations from public health authorities. We suggest you bring your own reading material with you while you wait.

If we follow some of these simple steps, we can all work together to minimize the spread of H1N1 AND continue to look after your oral health simultaneously...because curbing the spread of H1N1 is a healthy habit...and healthier habits lead to healthier lives.

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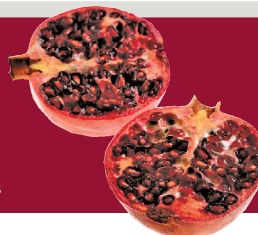
Dr. Frederick W. Warren
Rachelle Behrens, RMT

One of the "seven species" of foods native to biblical Israel, the pomegranate was a key element of Rosh Hashanah — the Jewish new year, starting Friday this year — centuries before promotion of suspected health benefits splashed the juice into all manner of smoothies, cocktails and other drinks. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Food

As of June, there were more than 1,800 food and drink products that contained pomegranate seeds or juice, says Tom Vierhile a director at market research firm DataMonitor.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Compare

Now look at that number in contrast to four years ago: In 2005, there were just 258 products that contained the fruit's seeds or juice.

EDITOR: NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Mediterranean morsels

Greek Pasta Bake

SERVES 4

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 lb (250 g) ground beef
- 1/2 lb (250 g) ground lamb
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 3 tsp (15 ml) dried oregano
- 1 tsp (5 ml) dried basil
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) pepper
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) dried thyme
- 1 can (14 oz / 398 ml) tomato sauce
- 1 can (14 oz / 398 ml) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) lemon juice
- 1 tsp (5 ml) sugar
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) ground cinnamon
- 2 cups (500 ml) uncooked rigatoni or large tube pasta
- 4 oz (113 g) feta cheese, crumbled

METHOD:

In large skillet, cook beef and lamb over medium heat until no longer pink; drain. Stir in onion, garlic, oregano, basil, salt, pepper and thyme; mix well. Add tomato sauce, tomatoes and lemon juice.



Greek Pasta Bake

Bring to boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in sugar and cinnamon. Simmer, uncovered, 15 minutes longer.

Meanwhile, cook pasta according to package di-

rections; drain. Stir into meat mixture. Transfer to greased 2-qt. (2 l) baking dish. Sprinkle with cheese. Cover and bake at 325 F (160 C) 45 minutes. Uncover; bake 15 minutes longer or until heated through.



Mediterranean Chicken with Olives

Mediterranean Chicken with Olives

SERVES 4

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
- 2 onions, roughly chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) chopped fresh rosemary
- 1/4 oz (40 g) chorizo sausage, skinned and diced
- 2 large red peppers, deseeded and roughly

chopped

- 1/3 cup (75 ml) sun-dried tomatoes, roughly chopped
- 14 oz (398 ml) can chopped tomatoes
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) dry white wine
- 4 skinless chicken breast fillets or large thighs
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) pitted olives (black, green or both)

METHOD:

Heat oil in large, heavy

flameproof casserole dish or deep frying pan. Add onions, garlic and rosemary and cook gently, stirring frequently, 15 minutes until soft and golden.

Add chorizo and peppers and cook over medium heat, stirring frequently, for a couple of minutes or until sausage turns slightly golden.

Add sun-dried tomatoes, canned tomatoes with their juice and wine. Season with freshly ground black pepper, then stir well and bring to simmer.

Add chicken and stir to coat with sauce. Bring to boil, then reduce heat so sauce simmers. Cover and cook 25-30 minutes until chicken is tender and sauce is thick.

Just before serving, stir in pitted olives and cook just long enough to heat through.

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Liquid Assets

Peter Rockwell

metronews.ca/liquidassets

Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.

The Fab Two

probably should have been out raking leaves or something, but I spent this past weekend with four old friends: John, Paul, George and Ringo. Yes folks, I was one of the foolish who bought The Beatles' new

boxed CD set — in mono no less.

As a big fan I just couldn't resist giving the Fab Two (and the family members of the other guys) more of my hard earned money. And while I may not be a professional music critic, the new discs sound pretty darn amazing.

To enhance the experience

of rediscovering each album, I needed a wine that begged to be sipped and savoured. Masi's 2006 Campofiorin (\$17.45 - \$19.99) was a perfect match for a few reasons.

While the red Italian from Veneto shows off lots of fruit (think plum



and raisin) that tastes terrific without food; it's sort of a remastered version of Masi's Bonacosta Valpolicella Classico (\$15.45 - \$16.99). A wine that's 2007 vintage is as light and cherry-filled as ever. As a ripasso wine

Campofiorin's flavour profile comes from its juice being passed over the guck left in the vats after the Valpolicella's fermentation. It comes out richer and rounder — just like my new CDs.

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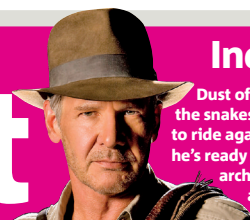
Partridge gets restraining order

The Hills star Audrina Patridge has been granted a restraining order against a fan who showed up on her doorstep with bizarre and macabre drawings, poems and letters. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

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Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONews.CA

**Indy is back**

Dust off the fedora and clear out the snakes — Indiana Jones is ready to ride again. Harrison Ford, 67, says he's ready for the globetrotting archaeologist's next adventure. PEOPLE.COM

Teen bites the dust

Megan Fox devours actor in horror comedy Jennifer's Body

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

With his boyish good looks and stocky physique, it's a no brainer that Alberta-born actor Josh Emerson would be a hit with the ladies and in his latest film, he lives out the fantasy of every teenage boy in America: Locking lips with cutie de jour, Megan Fox.

Unfortunately for his character however, said kiss is simply foreplay to having his intestines gorily devoured by Fox's comely but cannibalistic demon cheerleader.

Emerson is indeed one of the stars of the heavily-hyped horror comedy Jennifer's Body, the latest peek into teen agony from Oscar winning screenwriter Diablo Cody (Juno) and starring Fox as the titular, occasionally toothy, babe. Jennifer's Body is one of two high profile genre films to feature the up-and-coming performer this year, the other is the Adam Sandler produced The Shortcut and, although his star has been slowly rising for years, it seems Emerson's fortunes have changed rad-



Jennifer's Body is in theatres this Friday

Best friends Jennifer (Megan Fox, left) and Needy (Amanda Seyfried) enjoy an evening together at a local bar in Jennifer's Body.

ically. "Someone told me once that every overnight success takes ten years," says the young actor.

"Things are definitely happening for me but it's been a long process to get to wear I am now. After graduating, I just went from audition to audition, getting better and better projects. So it's been a long haul."

Emerson has the distinc-

tion of being the first classmate devoured by the newly evil Jennifer, in a gory, absurd outdoor sequence that makes a visceral impact. And certainly, getting that close to Fox, was equally impactful for the actor.

"Oh man, she's Megan Fox, what can I say?" he says, almost shyly.

"She's gorgeous, yeah, but she was also totally professional and, I think that when people see her in this, they'll be amazed

at just how good of an actress she really is."

After the buzz for Jennifer's Body dies down, Emerson will go back to his beat of auditioning and trying to take his craft to the next level. Chiefly, he's launching an unofficial campaign to nab the role of the villainous Venom in the next Spider-Man film.

"I have been obsessed with that character for years. As far as I'm concerned I have to be Venom, it's fate."

Boyle to cover Stones on America's Got Talent finale

A 75-year-old comedian, five tap-dancing sisters, a contorting breakdancer and a drum quartet faced off last night against six vocal acts during the final competition on America's Got Talent.

But whoever is named the winner on Wednesday night's show may find their moment in the spotlight is overshadowed by the appearance of a celebrity guest. It was announced yesterday that Susan Boyle, the plain Scottish singer who shot to fame on Britain's Got Talent, will perform the Rolling Stones classic Wild Horses during the show.

Boyle's debut album, I Dreamed a Dream, which she's been working on with producer Steve Mac, will be released on Nov. 24.

Other star performers slated for the two-hour show include Shakira, Leona Lewis as well as Rasca Flatts and the Cirque du Soleil.

As for the America's Got Talent finalists, judges Piers Morgan, Sharon Osbourne and David Hasselhoff had indicated who their favourites were prior to last night's show. Morgan deemed opera singer Barbara Padilla of Houston "the red-hot favourite" to win the show's \$1 million US prize and chance to headline a Las Vegas show. Hasselhoff picked the Texas Tenors, a trio of cowboy-hat-wearing men from Houston, as "the front-runner to win this competition."



Susan Boyle arrives in Los Angeles ahead of her appearance on America's Got Talent.

Other finalists included the Voices of Glory, two brothers and a sister from Highland, N.Y., who tend toward gospel material; Drew Stevyns, of Sykesville, Md., who has studied music since he was five years old; and Kevin Skinner, a chicken farmer from Mayfield, Ky., who has been playing guitar since he was a kid — mostly on his porch.

They put their vocal skills up against the comedy of Grandma Lee of Jacksonville, Fla., who developed her joke-telling talents after her husband died of cancer in 1995; the rhythms of Recycled Percussion, a quartet from Goffstown, N.H. that drums on old buckets, hubcaps and other found items; the fancy footwork of The Fab Five, tap-dancing sisters from Morgan, Utah; and the contorting moves of breakdancer Hairo Torres of Grants Pass, Ore.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Kylie Minogue fulfilled her lifelong dream by performing alongside Benny Andersson at an ABBA tribute concert Sunday night at the show in London's Hyde Park. She was joined by Andersson for a rendition of When All Is Said and Done. **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Entertainment in brief

CONCERT Some fans got carried away and extra police had to be called in near Winnipeg's MTS Centre late Sunday night after a concert by shock-rocker Marilyn

Manson. Winnipeg police blocked off Portage Ave. and called in for backup as rowdy fans poured out of the stadium.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Double the sarcasm

McHale extends Soup humour to NBC sitcom Community

AMBER RAY
Metro World News

Joel McHale, host of *The Soup*, throws snarky one-liners at the vapid reality stars his show lampoons with uncanny ease. That whip-smart sarcasm and wry sense of humour is lent to his character in the new NBC sitcom *Community*.

As Jeff Winger, McHale is a smarmy defence attorney attending community college since the recent revocation of his law degree.

But even with classes to attend and study groups to mismanage, McHale isn't throwing in the towel — or the mankini — on *The Soup* just yet.

Q Will starring in *Community* hurt your street cred and your ability to make fun of other shows on *The Soup*?

A We don't poke fun at things that are on purpose funny.

So we don't ever have clips from the late night talk shows. We don't ever have a moment from shows that were intentionally funny. I'll show clips from *Community* to promote the show on *The Soup*. I will be shameless about that. Since I'm not hosting a reality show — or a contestant on one — I don't think they'll be any conflict.

Q So did you just find yourself not busy enough working on *The Soup* that you decided to star in a sitcom, too?

A Yeah, I said, "I have a wife and kids, why do I want to spend time with them?" Actually, *The Soup* doesn't take up as much time as you would think because I can do a lot of it at home — watch television and write jokes. *Community* has really been the most time-consuming thing I've ever done next to shooting movies and guest-starring roles.



Joel McHale points to a *Community* poster during an event in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Q How much of either show is improvised?

A With *The Soup*, we write it all out because you have to be regimented to 22 minutes. But then within shooting the show I add all sorts of stuff. And then with *Community*, there's improvising in it because the cast are all really good at improvising, but the stories and characters are so strong that

we don't do a ton of it.

Q You previously starred in another sitcom, *The IT Crowd*, that never quite made it to the air. What makes *Community* different?

A With *The IT Crowd* specifically, that was a four-camera show with an audience, so it's totally different in that way. *Community* is shot like 30 Rock with a single camera. The *IT Crowd* was also a mid-season replacement, so it wasn't the show that (NBC) was trotting out. The regime change at NBC happened right after the upfront that year, so it was already kind of done — the network wasn't really as into it as they were their other shows. *Community* is one of two comedies they picked up (this year). I can't believe how fortunate of a slot we got (airing after *The Office*).

• *Community* premieres Thursday 9:30 p.m. on NBC.

YOU COULD

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OT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
265	353	2	TVO	Get Involved	Parks	The Agenda With Steve Paikin	Blackpool	Life in Cold Blood	Agenda-Paikin			
211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	NCIS 'Aliyah' (HDTV)	(9:01) Big Brother 11 (Season Finale) (Live)		News Final			
-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	La Factice	Providence (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Aveux (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Le Téléjournal Nouvelles (SC)	TJ Ontario			
209	342	6	CHRO	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Monk	Meet the Fockers ** (2004, Comedy)	Robert De Niro	Comedy Now			
196	311	7	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance Canada	Big Bang Th	Law & Order: SVU	CTV News			
208	303	8	CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Super Spellers (N)	Being Erica (DVS)	CBC News: The National	The Hour			
-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Biggest Loser (Season Premiere) (N)		The Jay Leno Show (N)	News			
117	713	10	TVA	Qui perd gagne (SC)		Caméra café	Taxi 0-22 (SC)	La Promesse (SC)	TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque		
-	-	11	QS	Bienvenue	Rire et délire	La Verité choc		Pratique privée (SC)	L'Attaque à 5			
137	763	12	TFO	Panorama été	Météo	Visages	Villages	Eaux profondes ** (1981, Drama)	Folie-aventure	Météo		
-	362	13	CBS	The Insider (N)	Judge-Brown	NCIS 'Aliyah' (HDTV)	(9:01) Big Brother 11 (Season Finale) (Live)	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)	Vivere V	Omni News:		
216	395	14	OMN2	Raymond	According-Jim	Omni News: S. Asian Edition	Omni News: Cantonese Edition	Two/Half Men	King	Breath		
214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		The Biggest Loser (Season Premiere) (N)		The Jay Leno Show (N)	News			
115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)	Vivere V	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill		
218	345	18	CHCH	Smokey and the Bandit *** (1977, Comedy)	Burt Reynolds	Shark Tank		Mad Max 2 *** (1981, Science Fiction)	Mel Gibson	News at 11		
-	361	20	ABC	Action News	Entertainment	Heure polit.	L'Heure politique	100 Huntley Street	Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee	
512	396	24	CPAC	La Période de questions		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique	100 Huntley Street	Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee	
651	355	25	CTS	Little House on the Prairie		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique	100 Huntley Street	Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee	
-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	More to Love Luke proposes to one woman. (N)		FOX 2 News (N)	Visions of Austria	Law & Order: SVU	CTV News	
-	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Holiday Table	Andre Rieu: Live in Vienna		Visions of Austria	Law & Order: SVU	CTV News	National	
205	312	104	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	So You Think You Can Dance Canada		Law & Order: SVU	The Hidden Face of Fear	Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Mansbridge	CBC News: Tonight		The Hidden Face of Fear	Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)			
500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				
406	417	27	net	MMA Conn.	UEFA Champions League Soccer	Besiktas vs. Manchester United. (HDTV)		Sportsnet Connected	Sportsnet Con.			
126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		RDI économique	Le National	Le Téléjournal		
400	280	30	TSN	MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at New York Yankees. (HDTV) (Live)				SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)				
410	403	52	SCR	Cabby Unlimt	Score Today	FullTiltPoker.net Million		X-Fighters	Score Now	Score Now		
411	457	56	OLN	Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivor	Ghost Hunters	Bounty Hunter		
417	406	59	SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Monster Jam (HDTV)		Super Bikes!	Jacked!	Pimp My Ride		
554	544	48	TFL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	6TEEN		Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken		
557	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han, Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody	
551	542	65	YTV	Drake & Josh	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mild.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline Proj	
570	580	29	MTV	The Daily Fix	Ranked!			Wild 'n Out	High School Reunion	The Daily Fix		
515	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV) (N)	The Cleaner (N)	The Cleaner		
628	584	32	SPKE	UFC Unleashed (HDTV)		Surviving Disaster 'Hijack'		Surviving Disaster 'Hurricane'	Surviving			
521	560	34	TLC	Ultimate Cake Off		Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	18 Kids-Count	18 Kids-Count			
145	761	35	TVS	Sur les pas de Jules Verne	Sur les traces des héros de Verne.			Dancing Twens (N)	18 Kids-Count			
616	521	39	BVO	The Outer Limits		Destination: Infection (2007, Suspense)		Expression	Montre-moi	NCIS		
620	523	40	BVO	The Musical Brain		Live at the Rehearsal Hall		Bones	Garrett Mason	Très Portugal	Law & Order	
520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		How It's Made	How It's Made	Destroyed	After the Catch (N)	Daily Planet		
575	583	43	CMT	Funnyest Home Videos		Reba		Accord-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	CMT on Tour	
601	562	45	SBC	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Bulging Brides	Bulging Brides	ET Canada	
625	548	46	COM	Air Force	22 Minutes	Comer Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	House Party	Comedy Inc.	Daily Show	
294	529	47	TBS	MLB Baseball New York Mets at Atlanta Braves. (HDTV) From Turner Field in Atlanta. (Live)				Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy		
600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Star Trek: Voyager		SarahCottage	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes	
627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis		Star Trek: Voyager		Torchwood	Torchwood (Season Finale) (N)	Stargate SG-1		
581	566	53	MTV	Cribs	After	MTV News	Parent Control	MTV Cribs	Daddy's Girls	MTV Live		
618	524	54	TROP	'70s Show	'70s Show	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	Family Guy	'70s Show	Crime Stories	
522	506	55	HIS	Ancient Discoveries		Cities of the Underworld		Cities of the Underworld	Ultimate Engineering	Cities of the Underworld		
129	773	60	CD	Biographies 'Kate Winslet'		Mayday (HDTV)		Images-chocs	Les Procureurs	Cités		
261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Bless-Father	Dinnerladies	Quantum Leap	Unscripted	I Prophecy	Poltergeist	
602	567	62	W	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Style by Jury	How to Look Good Naked	Naked Beauty		
269	530	70	APTN	Fish Out of	Mixed Blessing	Cashing In	Rabbit Fall	First Nation	Caution: Nuts	Moccasin Flats	Short Cuts (N)	
621	527	71	TLK	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)	The Dr. Oz Show (HDTV)	TMZ		
603	561	95	FN	Ricardo	Exotic	Restaurant Makeover		Hell's Kitchen	Good Eats	Good Eats	Iron Chef Am.	

critics'corner

The Hidden Face of Fear

We all know what it feels like to be afraid, but why does it feel that way? In this new documentary, neuroscientists and psychologists explain what goes on in the brain in response to frightening situations, focusing on three New Yorkers being treated for post-traumatic stress disorder in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. It also explores how the brain might be "rewired" to prevent PTSD. 10 PM on 26 NW



Live at the Rehearsal Hall

Singer-songwriter k.d. lang takes the stage in this episode performing songs from her album "Watershed." Released in February 2008, it's her first collection of original material since "Invisible Summer" in 2000. 8 PM on 40 BVO

Being Erica

Of all the regrets that Erica has about her life to date, the biggest one has to do with the death of Leo, her brother. This trip back in time leads her to learn the hard way that trying to change the past has huge consequences for the future in "Leo." 9 PM on 8 CBC

Oprah on sidelines in team Obama

POLITICS Oprah Winfrey may have been instrumental in getting Barack Obama elected president, but now claims she's on the sidelines. "I have not said one thing about this political situation and don't intend to," Winfrey said. "Everybody knows that I was a big campaigner for Obama and I still am. I think he's doing a great job. I think that it's the toughest job in the world with the economy and health care and all of that." Winfrey made her comments Sunday night at the premiere of *Precious* at the Toronto International Film Festival. Winfrey is the executive producer of the movie, adapted from Sapphire's novel *Push*.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt

Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit:

metronews.ca/movies

Robbie the reality hound

Singer Robbie Williams is such a huge fan of reality TV, he'd like to become a part of it. "I really like I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! It'd be fun to go on," he said, according to the Sun, and added he'd like to visit the Real Housewives set to see how it's made. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Celebrity Buzz

Drew and Justin back on again

REUNION Drew Barrymore and Justin Long appear to be back on once again. Before Barrymore hit the Toronto International Film Festival, the pair was spotted enjoying an intimate meal at Brick Lane Curry House in New York City, where they arrived without a reservation and went unnoticed, a source tells. People.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Kanye's sorry for knocking Taylor at VMAs

EATING HIS WORDS After Sunday's MTV Video Music Awards — during which Kanye West brazenly interrupted Taylor Swift's Best Female Video acceptance speech to say that Beyoncé deserved to win — Swift spoke to reporters about the incident, us-magazine.com reports.

"Well, I was standing on stage because I was really excited because I had just won the award," the 19-year-old singer began. "And then I was really excited because Kanye West was on stage. And then I

wasn't so excited anymore after that."

After the bizarre incident, she said celebs reached out to her backstage. (Some even tweeted; Pink, for instance, wrote: "Kanye west is the biggest piece of s— on earth. Quote me.")

"I've been getting so many text messages and everybody's been really nice," Swift said. "So I've had a really, really fun night. It's been interesting defi-

nately. It's definitely been an interesting night."

She said she doesn't have any ill will toward the rapper, 32, of whom she said she was once a fan.

"I don't know him, and I've never met him,"

so..." she said. "I don't want to start anything because I had a great night tonight."

She also thanked Beyoncé (who won Video of the Year), who invited her on stage as she accepted her award to give an acceptance speech.

"They told me to stand by the side of the stage, and I didn't re-

ally know what was going to go down," she said. "But I thought it was so wonderful and gracious of her to do what she's always done."

West was also quick to take to his blog to apologize for ruining Taylor Swift's acceptance speech.

"I'm sooooo sorry to Taylor Swift and her fans and her mom," West wrote after the ceremony. "I spoke to her mother right after and she said the same thing my mother would've said. She is very talented."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity tweets

Josh Groban weighs in on the Kanye West

VMAs controversy. **Courtney Love** goes after an accountant she feels has done her wrong, **Pete Wentz** takes his VMA loss in stride, and **Diablo Cody** had some quiet time away from home.

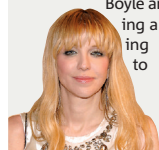
• **@joshgroban** Kanye, congratulations, i'm going to let you finish...but SOYBOMB HAD ONE OF THE BEST LAME INTERRUPTIONS OF ALL TIME! OF ALL TIME!

• **@courtneylover79** just found the taxes you did when you refinanced Kim Cobain's and Wendy Cobain's property and this ought to be fun since my tax lawyer is INSANE.

• **@petewentz** If u gotta lose one green day is the band to do it to. Honored to be even in the same sentence. Congrats.

• **@diablocody** I may or may not be alone in a hotel room, listening to Susan Boyle and applying a nourishing masque to my hair.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Elton's adoption hits red tape

WILL HE PULL A MADONNA? Singer Elton John and his longtime partner David Furnish won't be able to go home with the Ukrainian orphan they want to adopt, a Ukrainian family minister said Monday — citing a national law that prohibits unmarried couples from adopting, the Associated Press reports.

John and Furnish entered into a civil partnership on Dec. 21, 2005, the first day such unions became legal in England. John, 62, met toddler Lev while touring an orphanage where many of the children's parents have died

from AIDS, people.com reports.

"I would love to adopt him," John said over the weekend. "I don't know how we do that but he has stolen my heart. And he has stolen David's heart and it would be wonderful if we can have a home."



Ukrainian laws are very strict when it comes to adoption. Not only do the laws ban same-sex couples from adopting, they also state that parents cannot be more than 45 years older than the child. Their only hope would be a presidential dispensation to adopt the 14-month-old.

According to the country's law, should Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko grant John and Furnish's wish, the pair would also have to adopt Lev's brother, who is also in care.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Comic fan ScarJo clears house

THE COMIC BOOK GUY'S DREAM Scarlett Johansson is planning a superhero clear-out of her house, femalefirst.co.uk.

The actress plays Russian spy Black Widow in the upcoming Iron Man 2, while her husband Ryan Reynolds starred as villain Deadpool in the X-Men franchise. Between the two, Johansson admits

their house is cluttered with comics.

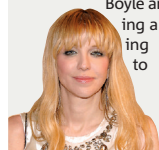
She said: "There is a lot of superhero stuff going on for us at the moment... It's fun to get into that whole world together even if there is quite a stack of comic books taking up space!"

Still, the 24-

year-old blonde star is keen to reprise her Marvel role.

She recently said: "The Black Widow has many different incarnations and different storylines so I'm hoping she will be able to continue in that way."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



No more Mr. Nice Director

SOURPUSS Guy Ritchie will never make a "nice" movie, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The Sherlock Holmes director likes his films to have action and conflict, so he'll never play it safe.

He said: "A nice theme about something nice with

people being nice towards one another is just f—ing boring."

"There's no conflict, and movies thrive on conflict and contrast. I must add that I've only been sitting on this theory for two hours."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



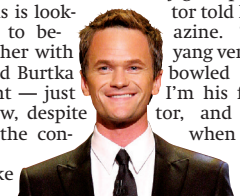
No baby now, but soon: Neil

SOON BUT NOT YET Neil Patrick Harris is looking forward to becoming a father with partner David Burtka at some point — just not right now, despite rumours to the contrary.

"We'd make

very good parents," the actor told New York magazine. "We yin and yang very well. I'm just bowled over by him. I'm his forever protector, and I'm happiest when he's happy."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Mischa on a short leash

THE SPOTLIGHT Since her hospitalization over the summer, producers on The Beautiful Life have been keeping an eye on Mischa Barton, and she isn't enjoying the extra attention. "All I can do is smoke cigarettes," Barton

complained to a co-worker, according to Page Six. Barton had planned to "party responsibly" over the weekend with co-stars and friends, including the show's producers, Ashton Kutcher and Demi Moore.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



BIG COMEDY BIG LAUGHS

YJ Big Fun Weeknights

MON-THURS 8PM E/P

FROM THE BEGINNING

EVERYBODY HATES CHRIS

8:30PM E/P

FROM THE BEGINNING

8 SIMPLE RULES

FOR DATING MY TEENAGE DAUGHTER

9PM E/P

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU

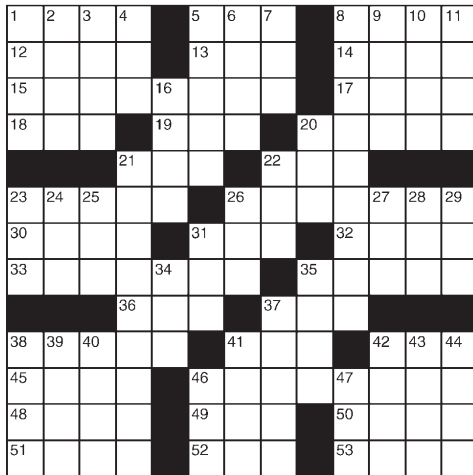
9:30PM E/P

MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE

8PM E/P



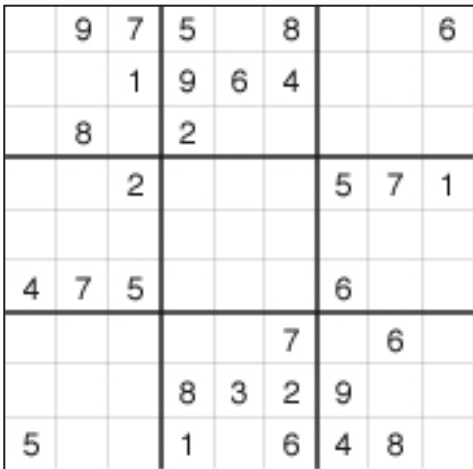
Take Five

For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



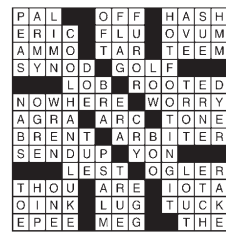
ACROSS

- 1 Sail support
- 5 Suitcase
- 8 Cooling devices
- 12 Reverberate
- 13 Lawyers' org.
- 14 Out of the storm
- 15 Time-saver
- 17 Ski-lift type
- 18 Nay opposite
- 19 Deteriorate
- 20 Muffler
- 21 Container for cookies
- 22 8-Across'
- 23 Pocattello's state
- 26 Frustrates
- 30 Ms. Moore
- 31 Egg — yung
- 32 Ark builder
- 33 Con
- 35 Act segment
- 36 April follower
- 37 Adversary
- 38 Curtain material
- 41 Hawaiian
- 42 TV watchdog

DOWN

- 1 Arizona city
- 2 Sore
- 3 Oxford, for one
- 4 Rocky peak
- 5 Panchetta, e.g.
- 6 Touch
- 7 Gangster's gun
- 8 "Yeah, that'll happen!"
- 9 Actress Jessica
- 10 Approach
- 11 Helot
- 12 Small combo
- 20 Witnessed
- 21 One kind of Girl Scout cookies
- 22 Pi follower
- 23 Cards at the
- door
- 24 Morning moisture
- 25 Parisian pal
- 26 Placekicker's pride
- 27 Canape topping
- 28 Hosiers shade
- 29 That woman
- 31 Aviate
- 34 River blocker
- 35 Earth
- 37 Criminal
- 38 Faction
- 39 Boast
- 40 Portrayal
- 41 Diane or Nathan
- 42 Most popular, briefly
- 43 Staff leader?
- 44 Minimal change
- 46 Young one
- 47 AAA job

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day



French-Style Chicken in Wine

INGREDIENTS:

- 12 shallots or pear onions
- 1-1/2 tbsp (20 ml) garlic-flavoured olive oil
- 2 oz (60 g) back bacon, cut into thin strips
- 12 cremini or white mushrooms
- 4 chicken pieces, such as breast halves
- Several sprigs parsley, stems bruised
- Several sprigs fresh thyme
- 1 bay leaf
- 2/3 cup (150 ml) chicken stock
- 1-1/2 cups (375 ml) full-bodied red wine, such as shiraz
- 2 carrots, cut into chunks
- Pinch sugar
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) cornstarch
- Salt and fresh-ground black pepper
- Chopped parsley

METHOD:

1. Put shallots or onions in heatproof bowl and pour over enough boiling water to cover. Leave 30 seconds, then drain. When cool enough to handle, peel and set aside.
2. Heat 1 tbsp (15 ml) oil in Dutch oven over medium heat. Add bacon and sauté, stirring often, until crisp, 3 minutes. Remove bacon with slotted spoon and set aside.
3. Add shallots to Dutch oven and sauté until brown all over, 5 to 8 minutes. Remove with slotted spoon and set aside.
4. Add mushrooms to Dutch oven, with remaining 1/2 tbsp (7 ml) oil, if needed, and sauté

- until golden, 3 to 4 minutes.
5. Return half of bacon and shallots to Dutch oven. Place chicken pieces on top and sprinkle with remaining bacon and shallots. Tie herbs into bouquet garni and add to Dutch oven with stock and wine. Season generously with pepper.
6. Bring to boil, then reduce heat to very low, cover, and simmer 15 minutes. Add carrots and continue simmering over low heat until chicken is cooked tender and juices run clear when pierced, and carrots are fork-tender.
7. Remove chicken and arrange on warm serving platter. Strain liquid into pot. Add bacon, mushrooms, shallots, and carrots to chicken and keep warm.
8. Put bouquet garni back in strained liquid, add sugar and bring to boil. Boil until sauce is reduced to about 1-1/2 cups (375 ml). Meanwhile, mix cornstarch with a little water until smooth paste forms. Stir into sauce and simmer until thicker. Adjust seasoning to taste and discard bouquet garni. Spoon sauce over chicken and vegetables and sprinkle with parsley.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.comFor Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20



The more you fret about where your next dollar is coming from the more likely it is you won't get it. So think positively today.

LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23



Some things make sense and some things do not and you just have to accept that. You may not like what's going on, but what choice do you have?

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21



At last you are in a position to voice your concerns to partners and loved ones. Put your point of view across, then listen carefully to their reply.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22



You know what you want and you have no doubt you'll get it before the end of the day. Others will realize it's not worth taking you on.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21



You've wasted too much time and energy on things that don't matter. Now you must cut out everything that is not central to your life's aims.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21



Saturn in the career area of your chart means it is time to get serious about your ambitions. You deserve the best, but it won't just drop into your lap.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22



The cosmic setup shows you're at a crossroads in your life. Fortunately, you know exactly what you want and exactly how you are going to get it.

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20



You'll have to deal with people whose ideas are very different from yours, but you can still get along. Try to understand where they're coming from.

LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23



No matter what you're going through, a bit of logical thinking will surely convince you it's no big deal. In fact, by week's end it will have been forgotten.

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18



You must make sure you project the right image, especially to people in authority. If you want to move up in the world you'll need powerful friends.

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22



You won't lack for opinions today, and that's good, but make sure everything you say is based on fact, not hearsay or wishful thinking.

PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20



Your task today is to let certain people know that you intend to break free of the restrictions they've imposed on you — but don't be nasty about it.

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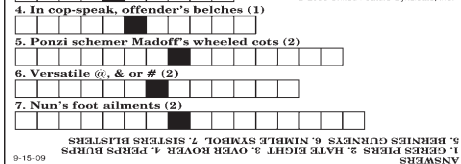
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WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

1. "Chicago" actor Richard's wharves (1)
2. Loathe an octet's number (1)
3. Above a gadabout or nomad (2)
4. In cop-speak, offender's belches (1)
5. Ponzi schemer Madoff's wheeled oats (2)
6. Versatile @, & or # (2)
7. Nun's foot ailments (2)

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Punta Cana • 4 ★

All-Inclusive • Junior suite
Oct. 4, 11, 18 & 25 • 1 wk.

Upgrade to the Royal Club luxury
room for only \$229 per person

\$719

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$313

Cancun / Riviera Maya

via Toronto

Occidental

Grand Xcaret • 4 1/2 ★

All-Inclusive
Supersaver deluxe rm.¹
Oct. 4, 11 & 18 • 1 wk.

\$749

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$259

DEALS of the WEEK

Samana via Toronto

Gran Bahia Principe

El Portillo • 4 1/2 ★

All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Sept. 20 & 27 • 1 wk.

\$539

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$313

Jamaica via Toronto

Grand Palladium Jamaica

Resort & Spa • 4 1/2 ★

All-Inclusive • Junior suite
Oct. 1-4, 6-12 & 14-24 • 1 wk.

\$899

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$273
Please add \$50 for Sat. & Sun. departures

Las Vegas via Toronto

Excalibur Hotel & Casino • 3 1/2 ★

Hotel rm.
Oct. 19 • 3 nts.

\$699

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$225

Santa Clara

Occidental Royal

Hideaway Ensenachos • 5 ★

All-Inclusive
Royal Hideaway Spa
Jan. 3-24 • 1 wk.

\$1239

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$212
Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

Samana via Toronto

Gran Bahia

Principe Cayacoa • 4 ★

All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Sept. 20 & 27 • 1 wk.

\$519

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$313

New York

Holiday Inn

Midtown - 57th Street • 3 ★

Standard rm.
Oct. 1, 11 & 14 • 2 nts.

\$749

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$121

Meliá Las Dunas • 4 ★

All-Inclusive • Standard rm.

Dec. 20 • 1 wk.

\$1479

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$212
Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

DEAL to EUROPE

Paris via Toronto

All Seasons Paris Gare Est • 3 ★

Breakfast • Standard rm.
Nov. 11, 13, 18 & 19
4 nts.

\$647

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$336

DEAL on CRUISES

Royal Caribbean International²

EARN 2,500 BONUS AEROPLAN MILES PER MEMBER³

Adventure of the Seas[®]

Southern Caribbean Cruise

Flights to San Juan via Montreal

Interior stateroom, cat. N

Dec. 20 • 1 wk.

\$1589

Taxes & other fees
(including service charges): \$254

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Occidental Hotels & Resorts

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Call 1 866 529-2079 or your travel agent

Prices in this ad are in Canadian dollars and are valid for bookings made between Sept. 15 & 19/09 inclusive. Prices are per person based on double occupancy, unless otherwise stated, from Ottawa - Macdonald-Cartier International Airport. Air & Hotel packages to the Caribbean, Cuba, Costa Rica and Mexico include return flight, the hotel as described and transfers at destination. Air & Cruise packages include return flight, the cruise as described and transfers at destination. Packages to Europe and the USA include return flight and hotel as described. New bookings only. Subject to availability. Not applicable to group bookings. Sale prices reflect applicable reductions, are subject to change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offer or promotion. Flights operated by Air Canada. For applicable terms and conditions, consult the Air Canada Vacations brochures or www.aircanadavacations.com. Ontario registration #5009337. Aeroplan Miles are not actual miles, but points towards rewards including travel rewards. Unless otherwise indicated, Aeroplan Miles indicated are based on roundtrip Economy class per passenger from Ottawa to Paris via Toronto, are awarded on flight-inclusive travel only, and are per Aeroplan member. For the amount of Aeroplan Miles that can be earned when flying to other destinations, visit www.aircanadavacations.com. For terms and conditions of the Aeroplan program, consult www.aeroplan.com. ¹Xcaret park tickets not included with this room category. ²Royal Caribbean International Ltd. ships' registry: The Bahamas. ³Earn 2,500 bonus Aeroplan Miles if booking is made by Oct. 31/09 for departures between Sept. 1 & Dec. 31/09. ⁴Available on select flights. Full details available at aircanadavacations.com/executiveclass. ⁵Aeroplan is a registered trademark of Aeroplan Canada Inc. ⁶Air Canada Vacations is a registered trademark of Air Canada, used under license by Touram Limited Partnership, 2700 Matheson Blvd. East, Mississauga ON. Visit www.aircanadavacations.com for up-to-date information.

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‡Return between 30-60 days with less than 4,000km. Vehicle usage fee and other restrictions apply. Take retail delivery by 11/30/09. [△]Whichever comes first, see your dealer for details.